

REMARKS

Applicants have considered the outstanding official action. It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance as set forth below.

The Examiner has suggested at page 2, paragraph 1 of the official action certain amendments to clarify the specification and claims. Applicants have amended the specification and claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. In particular, page 13, line 22, of the specification was amended to refer to a "two legged, free standing apparatus"; claim 6 amended to read "hingedly affixed to said leg"; and page 15, line 5 of the specification amended to describe the footing as having a "non-skid foot" based on the disclosure in claim 8 as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Claims 2-11 are stated to be objected to as being based on a rejected base claim but are stated to be otherwise allowable. Applicants note that claim 2 was placed in independent form in the amendment filed June 19, 2003. Accordingly, applicants submit that claims 2-11 are in condition for formal allowance. Formal allowance is thus respectively requested.

The sole rejection is of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Gottlieb et al (U.S. Patent No. 2,534,664) in

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view of Warner (U.S. Patent No. 4,498,204) and O'Brien (U.S. Patent No. 6,068,225).

Claim 1 is canceled herein without prejudice to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is rendered moot.

Reconsideration and formal allowance of the application is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

BORIS REYDEL ET AL

By Mary Breiner
Mary J. Breiner, Attorney
Registration No. 33,161
BREINER & BREINER, L.L.C.
115 North Henry Street
P.O. Box 19290
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-0290

Telephone (703) 684-6885